

## A call for MSc. students

### **Transformation from even-aged to uneven-aged forest stand structure in Norway spruce forests of the Mathislewald**

We are seeking a student interested in exploring the topic of transformation from even-aged to uneven-aged forest stand structure as a part of her/his MSc. thesis.

The study will be based on data collected from permanent research plots in the University forest (Mathislewald), a forest enterprise of 127 ha dominated by secondary coniferous forests, mostly planted Norway spruce (*Picea abies* (L.) H. Karst.), where the dominating age class ranges between 80 and 100 years. The aim of the study is to investigate the process of transformation making use of the forest growth model BWIN that is an individual tree growth model predicting forest stand development. It is desired that different management approaches leading to greater diversity in tree sizes and species composition are explored. This may involve considering various management methods that would diversify the light levels reaching the forest floor in order to manipulate natural regeneration and therefore allowing silver fir (*Abies alba* Mill.) and European beech (*Fagus sylvatica* L.) to emerge. The study should deliver the basis for the development of optimal management strategies from an economic as well as ecological point of view.

For more information, please contact either Prof. Dr. Marc Hanewinkel or Dr. Lucie Vítková.

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